

ER 61-670/a

25X1

20 JAN 1961

ASAP

Brig. General Edward G. Lansdale, USAF  
Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense  
(Special Operations)  
Department of Defense  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Ed:

Mr. Dulles has asked me to acknowledge and  
thank you very much for your letter of 23 January  
concerning the valuable assistance that was rendered  
by [redacted] during your mission to  
Vietnam.

We are highly pleased to get your kind com-  
ments about his performance and appreciate your  
thoughtfulness in bringing this to our attention. I am  
forwarding your letter to him for his information and  
a copy will be placed in his official personnel folder  
as a matter of record.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

[redacted]

Executive Officer

25X1

O/DCI/ [redacted] :bak 24 Jan 61

Rewritten: EO/DCI/ [redacted] :bip 25 Jan 61

25X1

Distribution:

Original [redacted] - Addressee

1 - JSE

1 - [redacted] w/basic via DD/P

1 - DD/P

1 - O/Personnel w/cpy for filing in [redacted] personnel folder

official

25X1

1 - AAB

1 - ER w/cpy basic *Sid Reading*



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Executive Registry  
61-690

23 January 1961

Dear Mr. Dulles:

Thank you for assigning [redacted] to help in my mission to Vietnam, 2-14 January 1961. His assistance made a vital contribution to what was accomplished and it was my pleasure to so inform the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense in my private report to them. I know that they join me in warm appreciation of your thoughtful help.

25X1

[redacted] was far more than a French linguist and interpreter in this work in Vietnam. He was welcomed as an old friend and companion by leading Vietnamese such as the President, Vice President, and Cabinet members, as well as by political oppositionists and people in many walks of life with whom we worked. His cheerful willingness to work long hours when necessary and his kindly patience with Asians under trying circumstances gave added meaning to his contribution. It should also be noted that he was unhesitatingly responsive to whatever needed doing when in areas of physical danger, such as in the Communist Viet Cong zone at the southern tip of Camau where Free Vietnamese settlers are wresting territory away from Communists who have held it by force since 1945.

I hope that this letter can be made a part of the service record of this dedicated American. His work certainly reflects credit on your fine organization.

Sincerely,

*Edward G. Lansdale*

EDWARD G. LANSDALE  
Brigadier General, USAF  
Deputy Assistant to the  
Secretary of Defense  
(Special Operations)

Honorable Allen W. Dulles  
Director, Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E. Street, N.W.  
Washington 25, D.C.